Title : Need to introduce mobile telephone service of BSNL in 24 Parganas District (South), West Bengal.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (JOYNAGAR): Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government regarding the growing demand to provide for telecommunication facilities, including mobile connections through the BSNL network in Canning, Basanti and Gosaba areas of 24 Parganas District (South) in West Bengal.

The nearby tourist place Sundarbans is visited by hundreds of tourists each day. To facilitate tourism as well as the public of the area, the existing communication facilities being provided by the BSNL are highly inadequate.

Despite several assurances, the BSNL could not introduce the mobile phone facility in Canning, Basanti, Gosaba, Sandesh Khali and Kutali areas while private players have already started tapping the market. Also, assurance made by the Government to set up WLL based telephone exchange, that is, BTSs at Basanti in Sundarbans, has not yet been fulfilled. Hence, the installation of BTSs at Basanti, Gosaba and Jamtala (Kultali) should be expedited. Also, it would not be out of place to mention about the inordinate delays in repairing of faulty telephones by the BSNL in this area and the difficulties being faced by the public.

Hence, the introduction of mobile facilities, installation of BTSs at the above mentioned area along with improved services would be highly helpful to public as well as the BSNL to out margin the private players. This is an urgent and important matter of public interest and, therefore, I demand the Government to take expeditious action in the matter.